

We claim:

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1. A system comprising:

a facsimile device configured to transmit a code-associated information material;

an interactive user device;

a processor coupled to said interactive user device via Internet and to said facsimile device via a public-switched telephone network, wherein said processor is further configured to receive from said facsimile device a transmission of said code-associated information material, and to provide to an authorized user of said interactive user device upon request said information material.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said information material is a medical record.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein said code-associated information material comprises a medical record having a barcode associated therewith.

4. The system according to claim 3, wherein said code-associated information material comprises a fax cover sheet having said barcode printed thereon.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein said system further comprises a barcode generator for generating said barcode.

6. The system according to claim 5, wherein said system further comprises a barcode reader for reading said barcode of an incoming fax transmission.

7. The system according to claim 6, wherein said barcode corresponds to an identification number associated with a patient.

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein said identification number corresponds to authentication data of said patient.

9. The system according to claim 8, further comprising a storage means having storage locations for storing said information materials; wherein said processor is further configured to store said information materials in a storage location corresponding to said coded information material.

10 The system according to claim 9, wherein said storage means comprises an patient authentication data module configured to store said identification numbers of said patients and said corresponding authentication data.

11. The system according to claim 10, wherein said system further comprises an encryption module for encrypting said coded information material prior to being stored.

12 The system according to claim 11, wherein said storage means further comprises an encrypted information data module configured to store said encrypted information materials.

13 The system according to claim 12, wherein said encrypted information data module is configured to store with each of said encrypted information materials a corresponding identification number.

14 The system according to claim 13, wherein said processor is further configured to prompt a user of said interactive user device to enter an identification number and authentication data.

15. The system according to claim 14, wherein said system further comprises a decryption module for decrypting said encrypted information material prior to being displayed.

16. The system according to claim 15, wherein said processor is configured such that said decryption module decrypts said encrypted information material for display to a user only when said user enters an identification number and its corresponding authentication data.

17. A system comprising:

a processor comprising:

means for receiving a facsimile from a facsimile device;

means for receiving a telephone call from a telephone, wherein said processor is coupled to said facsimile device and to said telephone via a public-switched telephone network, wherein said processor is configured to receive from said facsimile device a transmission of a code-associated information material, and, upon a request received via said telephone, to transmit said code-associated information material to a user designated facsimile device..

18. The system according to claim 17, wherein said information material is a medical record.

19. The system according to claim 18, wherein said code-associated information material comprises a medical record having a barcode associated therewith.

20. The system according to claim 19, wherein said system further comprises a barcode generator for generating said barcode.

21. A method comprising the steps of:

associating a code with an information material;
transmitting with a facsimile device said code-associated information material to a processor via a public-switched telephone network;
receiving at said processor said transmission of said code-associated information materials, and
providing said information material to an authorized user via Internet at said interactive user device in response to a request received therefrom.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein said associating step comprises associating said code with a medical record.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein said associating step further comprises appending to said information material a barcode.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein said associating step further comprises appending to said information material a fax cover sheet having said barcode printed thereon.

25. The method according to claim 24, further comprising the step of generating said barcode by employing a barcode generator.

26. The method according to claim 25, further comprising the step of employing a barcode reader for reading said barcode of an incoming fax transmission.

27. The method according to claim 26, further comprising the step of associating said barcode with an identification number corresponding to a patient.

28. The method according to claim 27, further comprising the step of associating authentication data with said identification number of said patient.

29. The method according to claim 28, further comprising the steps of:
providing a storage means having storage locations; and
storing said information materials in a storage location associated with said coded information material.

30. The method according to claim 29, further comprising the step of storing in an patient authentication data module of said storage means said identification numbers of said patients and said corresponding authentication data.

31. The method according to claim 30, further comprising the step of encrypting said coded information material prior to being stored.

32. The method according to claim 31, further comprising the step of storing in an encrypted information data module of said storage means said encrypted information materials.

33. The method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of storing in said encrypted information data module an identification number corresponding to each of said encrypted information materials.

34. The method according to claim 33, further comprising the step of prompting a user of said interactive user device to enter an identification number and authentication data.

35. The method according to claim 34, wherein said method further comprises the step of decrypting said encrypted information material prior to being displayed.

36. The method according to claim 35, further comprising the step of decrypting said encrypted information material for display to a user only when said user enters an identification number and its corresponding authentication data.

37. A method comprising the steps of:

associating a code with an information material;

transmitting via a facsimile device said code-associated information material to a processor via a public-switched telephone network;

receiving at said processor said transmission of said code-associated information materials, and

providing said code-associated information material to an authorized user at a user designated facsimile device at in response to a request received via telephone.

38. The method according to claim 37, wherein said associating step comprises associating said code with a medical record.

39. The method according to claim 38, wherein said associating step further comprises appending to said information material a barcode.

40. The method according to claim 39, wherein said associating step further comprises appending to said information material a fax cover sheet having said barcode printed thereon.

41. A transmission paper for registering patients in a system wherein medical records are faxed via a public-switched telephone network to a processor and are accessible for display to users authorized by said patient, said transmission paper comprising:

a barcode configured to be appended to a patient's medical record for fax transmission to said system;

patient access information which enables said user authorized by said patient to access and display said medical record via Internet.

42. The transmission paper of claim 41, further comprising payment information of said patient.

43. The transmission paper of claim 42, wherein said patient access information is removable.

44. The transmission paper of claim 43, wherein said information comprises an identification number or name, a password and an access code.

45. The transmission paper of claim 44, further comprising doctor access information comprising an identification number or name and an access code.

46. The transmission paper of claim 45, wherein said medical records are accessible to said doctor upon said doctor entering said access code.

47. The transmission paper of claim 43, wherein said patient access information further comprises a password.

48. The transmission paper of claim 46, wherein data corresponding to said medical records is editable by said patient upon said patient entering said password.

49. The transmission paper of claim 48, wherein said user identification name or number, said password and said access code are covered until said apparatus is used by a patient.

50. The transmission paper of claim 49, wherein said user identification name or number, said password and said access code are covered by a scratch-off region.